CLAIMS

1. A remote station apparatus comprising:

a link quality estimation unit operative to generate a link quality estimate in response to a first power control instruction received on a common channel; and

a power control unit coupled to the link quality estimation unit, the power control unit operative to generate a second power control instruction in response to the link quality estimate.

2. The remote station apparatus of claim 1, wherein the remote station apparatus controls transmission power in response to the first power control instruction.

3. The remote station apparatus of claim 1, wherein the remote station apparatus transmits the second power control instruction.

4. A base station apparatus comprising:

a decoder; and

a determination unit coupled to the decoder, the determination operative to determine a power control instruction for base station transmission on a common channel; and

an adjustment unit coupled to the determination unit, the adjustment unit operative to adjust a power level of the power control instruction.

5. A base station apparatus comprising:

a control processor for power control of transmission of power control instructions on a common channel; and

an amplifier operative to adjust a power level of the power control instructions.

6. A wireless communication system comprising:

a first power control unit operative to transmit reverse link power control instructions on a common channel; and

a second power control unit operative to adjust transmission power of the reverse link power control instructions in response to forward link power control instructions received on a reverse link.

7. A method for power control in a wireless apparatus operative in a communication system having a forward link and a reverse link, the system transmitting power control bits on a forward link common channel, the method comprising:

measuring a SNR of at least one power control bit for controlling a reverse link; and

determining a power control decision for the forward link based on the SNR.

8. A method for power control in a wireless communication system, the system having a forward link and a reverse link, the system transmitting power control instructions on a forward link common channel, the method comprising:

determining a first power control instruction for control of the reverse link;

in response to receiving a second power control instruction on the reverse link, the second power control instruction for control of the forward link, determining a first transmission power level; and

transmitting the first power control instruction at the first transmission power level on the common channel.

9. A method for power control in a wireless communication system, the system having a forward link and a reverse link, the system transmitting

power control instructions on a forward link common channel, the method comprising:

generating a reverse link power control instruction;

generating a forward link power control instruction; and

adjusting a power level for transmission of the forward link power control instruction according to the reverse link power control instruction.